



AOH Golf League

BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND OTHER STUFF WE NEVER READ!

I. DUES

- a) Dues are \$100 per season. Dues must be paid in full by the first due date for greens fees (see below).
- b) The handicapper and league officers are exempt from dues in exchange for duties performed.
- c) Frear Park instituted a policy of pre-pay green fees for all leagues in 2005. They have typically requested the first 10 weeks in early April and the remainder by early June. All Green Fees must be paid at least one week prior to the deadlines established by the City of Troy.
- d) All Dues and Green Fees must be paid as noted above. There is a strict NO PAY, NO PLAY policy. Also see VII.A below.

II. LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

- a) Former Members
 - i. A list of members will be maintained for three successive years Former members in good standing will have preference in filling vacancies in the league within four years of leaving the league. After a 4th year of consecutive absence, this rule no longer applies and then they go to the normal waiting list that is maintained by the handicapper.
 - ii. Any returning member would be still be flighted back into the lowest flight and not return to a flight as based on his handicap differential. They would however start back at their former handicap when they left and not have to play as scratch (see item b.iv. below).
- b) New Members
 - i. A waiting list is maintained to record potential new members in the order in which their names were submitted for membership. The waiting list is maintained for viewing by all members on www.aohgolf.com.
 - ii. With the exception of former members, vacancies will be filled from the list in the order their names were submitted to the league for membership. If a candidate at the top of the list is offered membership but declines, they will be removed form the list unless they opt to be moved to the bottom of the list.
 - iii. Any new member failing to attend the first night of play for a scheduled match will be dropped from the league unless PRIOR arrangements have been made with your opponent or the president of the league.

- iv. Prior to the season new members will form the lowest applicable flight. Once the season begins and the league calendar has been published, new members will take the position of the player he is replacing at the time he was withdrawn.
- v. New members will play as a scratch golfer until three (3) verified scores from Frear Park have been received. At which time a handicap will be provided for league purposes. Note: a league member must verify the scores.

c) Membership

- i. The league will consist of 6 flights of 10 golfers in each flight. Each member will be scheduled to play all other members in their flight twice each season.
- ii. Any player missing two weeks in a row without calling his opponent or an officer is suspended.
- iii. Players must REGISTER (SIGN IN) in the pro shop and play at Frear Park in order to receive points.
- iv. If one player forfeits, either in advance or by not appearing on the scheduled date, the other player must play to collect all 4 points. Otherwise, 2 points will be awarded by merely signing the card.
- v. Players forced to drop out of the league are entitled to attend the year-end event, provided their dues are fully paid in advance. No substitutions will be allowed to attend the year-end event. However, guests of the league will be allowed with the approval of the officers and full payment of all charges as determined by the Treasurer. Guests are eligible for tournament prizes.
- vi. The league will provide flight schedules and handicapping information. League statistics will be maintained and published weekly including points own and lost. (See League Scoring)
- vii. Names and phone numbers of league members by flight will be published. Any discrepancies in this information should be noted to the handicapper in charge of your flight.
- viii. Other routine announcements will be available on the bulletin board in the bar at the course.

d) Representation

- i. Regular open meetings are held to discuss current issues and changes relating to league operations. Each flight will designate one member to represent them in these meetings to express the concerns of their flight.
- ii. If you wish to represent yourself for any reason you may. Inform a league officer that you would like to have time to speak at the next meeting and provide them with a topic description so it can be put on the agenda.

e) Tournaments

- i. Dues also allow for a reduced cost towards league tournaments with prizes throughout the year. Tournaments and event managers will be announced on the bulletin board. Tournaments are the responsibility of the officers as a whole and tournament fees are payable to the Treasurer.
- ii. Abusive behavior will not be tolerated. Any member who feels they are treated badly or unfairly has the right to petition the officers for sanction of any member who disrupts the league. (See Sanctions)

III. HANDICAPS

- a) Handicaps are modified weekly using handicap software provided by the league. The handicap is calculated by using a player's best 7 of last 14 scores and applying slope and rating values.
- b) These are not, strictly speaking, USGA approved handicaps. (However, it has been an accepted practice to double your 9 hole handicap and add 1 to develop an 18 hole handicap.)
- c) GHIN system available – a GHIN handicapping system is available for League members who want to maintain an official GHIN handicap. Sign-up is available via the League Treasurer. The cost is as determined by the NYSGA and payment is due at sign-up. The GHIN handicap will not be used for League handicapping purposes

IV. SCORING

- a) Each round awards 2 points for match play and 2 points for medal play. Ties in holes won or net scores result in splitting points. (i.e. A 6 handicap and a 10 handicap shoot 42 and 46 respectively. Both are net 36, however, the 10 handicap won 4 holes and tied 2. Each player gets 1 point for medal play for tying net scores, but the 10 handicap gets 2 points from the match by going 1 up in holes won.)
- b) Points won are accumulated and are used to determine flight standings and ultimately flight champions.
- c) \$9 of each member's league dues representing the old point money are to be maintained in a pool to assist in the purchase of beverages or to defray the costs of tournaments.

V. GENERAL PLAY

- a) Speed of Play – FASTER!! PLAY READY GOLF!!
- b) Slow Play – Any group found not to be keeping a reasonable pace within the group in front of them will be approached by the officers and warned and if speed of play is still a problem they can be sanctioned. Sanctions include:
 - a. Forfeiture of the current round
 - b. Expulsion from the course for the evening
 - c. Expulsion from the league
- c) If due to inclement weather, either the course or the officers suspend play, play is postponed and matches must be played within two weeks of the postponement. The decision whether to play or not will be made by 4:30. Subsequent weeks will continue according to the published schedule. Any special handling of postponements or cancellations will be posted on the bulletin board.
- d) Tee Times – The league is scheduled to tee off from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Play must occur on or before the scheduled day.
- e) A match must be played on the date scheduled in order to count for both handicap and scoring purposes (weather permitting); unless league officers have postponed that night's schedule, and then refer to V.b) above. Matches played at other times and dates will count for flight standings (points only) and not for handicapping purposes.

VI. LEAGUE RULES OF PLAY

- a) Matches will be played on or before the scheduled date. Scorecards will ONLY be accepted when signed by the member and verified by another member's signature. Otherwise zero goes to both players. Unverified scores WILL NOT be accepted.
- b) USGA Rules apply in all cases EXCEPT:
 - i. Gimmies generally within the leather of your putter!
 - ii. If a ball goes out of bounds or becomes unplayable, drop where it goes out or declared unplayable and add 1 stroke (not distance) for the reason of speed of play.
 - iii. Footprints in Bunker – A player is entitled to relief if his ball comes to rest in a footprint within a bunker. The player shall consult his opponent before taking relief. In taking relief, the player shall smooth the area of the footprint and then place the ball back in its original position.
 - iv. Rocks in Bunker – A player is entitled to relief if his ball comes to rest in rocks within a bunker. The player shall consult his opponent before taking relief. In taking relief, the player shall remove the rocks and smooth the effected area and then place the ball back in its original position.
 - v. Water Hazards – The water along the right side of #11 will be considered a lateral water hazard. The ditch directly below #18 will be considered a regular water hazard. This applies to both #10 and #18.
 - vi. The fence on # 18 – A player is entitled to line if sight relief when playing #18 and his ball is behind the fence separating #18 green and #10 tee. He may move to the nearest end of the fence affording complete relief or may drop as far back as he wishes from his original position, keeping that point between himself and the hole. This is a free drop, no stroke assessed. (see relief procedure below)
 - vii. Preferred lies will be played in accordance with local rules. A ball lying in your own “Fairway” may be lifted and cleaned.
 - viii. The following are considered immovable obstructions:
 - a. Fences surrounding sprinkler control boxes
 - b. Newly planted trees
 - c. String and stakes supporting nay tree
 - d. Bushes or stakes serving as 150 yard markers
 - e. Worn areas void of grass serving as cart paths
 - f. Fence protecting the #5 tee
 - g. Fence bordering the #6 fairway
 - ix. Relief procedure - A player is entitled to drop his ball without penalty within one club length of a spot, not nearer the hole, affording him clear stance and swing.

VII. SANCTIONS

- a) Non payment of Dues will result in expulsion form the league. This is not a charitable organization and remember its members know where you live!
- b) Unsportsmanlike Behavior At Any League Event – It's about having fun, don't ruin someone else's round. This includes but is not limited to Throwing clubs, Damaging the course or Personal Property, Fighting and Abuse of Course Personnel.
- c) Intentional damage to course property
 - i. Includes expulsion from the course
 - ii. Expulsion from the league including forfeiture of all money paid
- d) Non-Attendance without notifying the league

- i. Member will be asked to account for absence to the officers
- ii. Expulsion from the league including forfeiture of all money paid

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

- a) The league president may, at his discretion, declare an emergency meeting of the board if 2 or more members are present.
- b) There will be a minimum of \$50.00 in the treasury as a carryover for the next year.
- c) A trophy or other form of recognition, as determined by league officers, will be awarded for first place in each flight.
- d) Playoffs:
 - i. If a tie in points exists at the end of the season, a nine-hole playoff will be scheduled to determine the winner. If they remain tied after nine holes are played, a sudden death playoff hole will be played.
 - ii. If either player cannot make time before the league championship tournament, said player forfeits the match.
 - iii. If both players are unable to play within the above time frame, the winner will be determined by league officers based on:
 - a. The record of points between those players during the year
 - b. Year end handicap differential
 - c. Officers determination
 - iv. For overall League Champion and bragging rights, there will be a playoff of Flight Champions on the following 2 weeks at the end of the regular season. No substitutions for Flight winners are allowed in the event that a flight winner can not play on the designated nights.
- e) If ties exist in creating new year flight determinations based on players handicaps and differentials, the league officers will determine flight positions based on:
 - i. Existing flight membership (prior year)
 - ii. Record vs. opponents
 - iii. League Seniority
 - iv. Officer Determination
- f) Election of officers will be held at the last regular meeting of the season.
- g) You must play ahead if you are not able to make a certain scheduled week. You may play 2 weeks early. If that is not possible, you can play 2 weeks after the scheduled date. Therefore, you have 4 weeks to play any match. If verified score cards are not received by the handicapper within 2 weeks of a scheduled match, **BOTH PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE ZERO (0) POINTS.**
- h) No more than 2 match cards will be allowed unless otherwise approved by any officer. Playing a double match ahead of time is not matching cards and is permitted. Communication with your opponent is imperative. Although the schedule reads "it is the responsibility of the higher number for contact for the 1st half and lower number the 2nd half," communication takes two people. We are here to have fun and play golf competitively.*

* Last modified by Donald J. McLaughlin, Jr. on September 27, 2010